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Military Developments 23 Aug 75

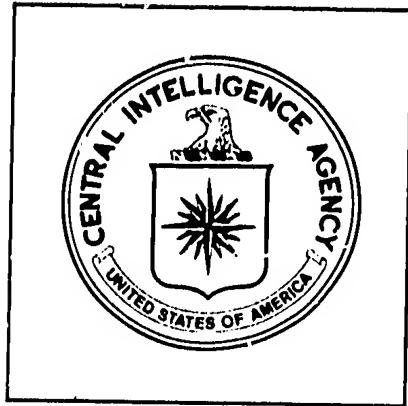
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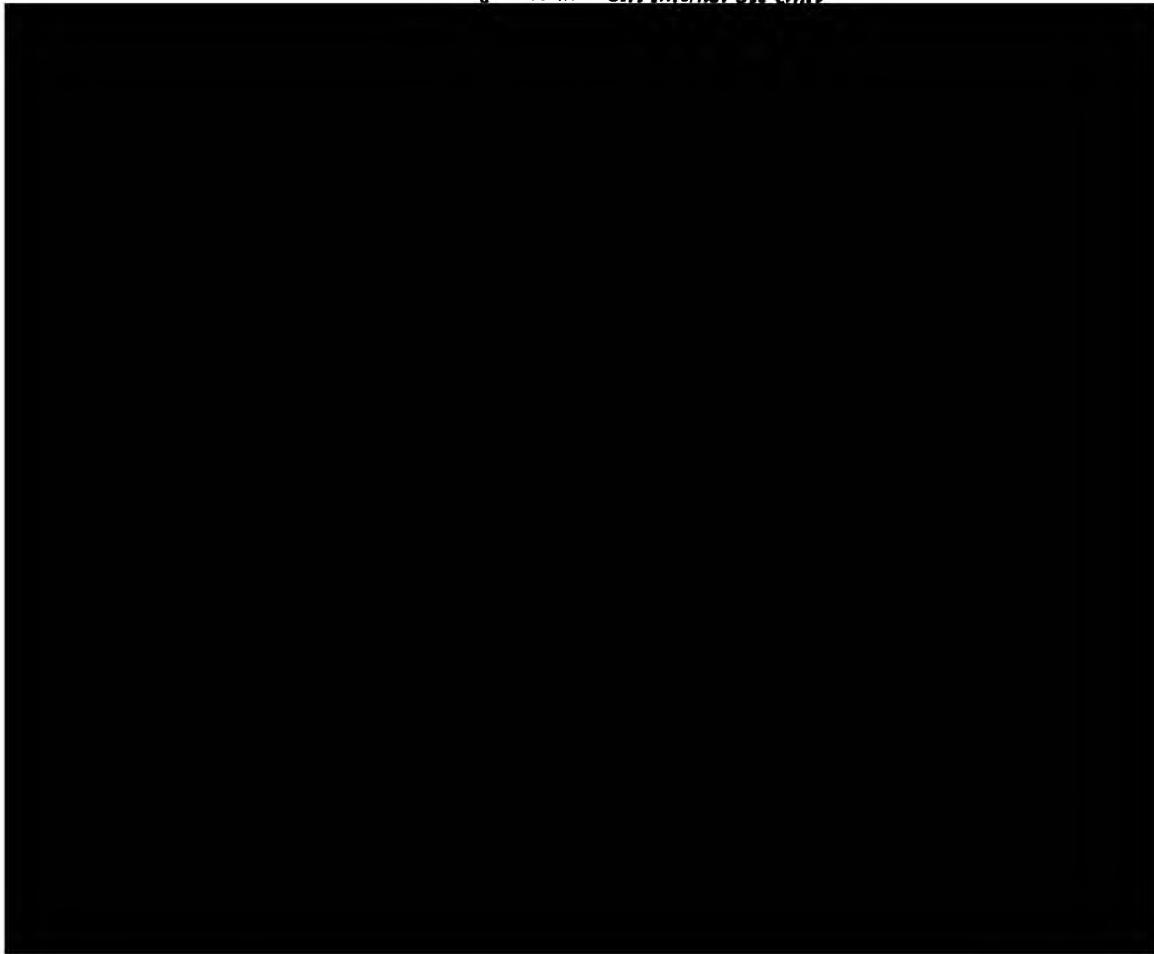
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USSR: Another Kiev Military District Commander Moves Up

Colonel General G.I. Salmanov, 53, commander of the Kiev Military District since 1969, was recently appointed deputy commander-in-chief of the Soviet Ground Forces. He is probably being groomed to replace the incumbent commander-in-chief, Army General I.G. Pavlovskiy, 66, who probably will retire within the next two to three years.

Historically, command of the Kiev Military District has been a stepping-stone to the Soviet high command. Salmanov is only the most recent former Kiev

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commander to attain a prominent post in the Ministry of Defense. Other former Kiev commanders include: Marshals Grechko, Chuikov, Koshevoy, Yakubovskiy, and Army General Kulikov.

Salmanov's successor in Kiev, Colonel General I.A. Gerasimov, former commander of the Northern Group of Soviet Forces in Poland, probably is another Soviet officer to watch. Given the significance of the Kiev command, Gerasimov's star is almost certainly on the rise.

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